their career and the assurance of a good income for the meagre appointments as an official. It is sufficient just to glance at the statistics of the Russian Empire in order to realize what a gigantic increase in the development of civilization was reached by the effort of the Russian intellectuals and specialists. Public instruction had developed in these fifty years to an enormous extent, infant mortality had fallen by more than 60 per cent, epidemics had experienced a great fall, as also cattle diseases, and the yield of the land had increased in the southern regions by more than 30 per cent. The improvement of the different breeds of horses and cattle was already evident on the eve of the Great War.

The backward country which Russia was supposed to be in the eyes of Westerners, including also the Ukraine, had in 1912 a big network of telephone lines in the country and especially in the region of Vinnitza, where the organization of the Zemstvos was especially active.

As to the river system, as we have already seen, it is very poor and is limited to four rivers, the Dnieper, the Dniester, the Boug, and the Donietz, of which the Dnieper alone is of any interest. The transport capacity of this one important river has been for ever spoiled by the rapids which make navigation impossible along a considerable distance. It is only after the building of the *Dnieprogues*, whose gigantic barrage had submerged the rapids along a distance of about one hundred kilometres, that an uninterrupted river route was established, linking the upper Dnieper with the Black Sea.

This river drains the greater part of the Ukraine and has left its mark upon the whole historic and economic evolution of the country.

Before the Great War the annual tonnage of transports

9: Prothero G-4 (no date) 1920 RD1 Ukraine RD1

vast quantities of honey are produced, but its quality suffers from the prevalent ignorance of scientific methods of bee-keeping, and it does not command a good price.

Disease among domestic animals causes great ravages. Cattle-plague epidemics are of annual occurrence and cause heavy losses, the proportion of fatal cases being very high. The other most prevalent troubles appear to be anthrax, frounce in horses, and pneumo-enteritis amongst swine. The last disease has made great inroads of latter years, a large proportion of cases being fatal. The proportion of live-stock per 100 inhabitants shows decrease under almost every head, a slight increase in horses or pigs in some Governments by no means counterbalancing the all-round continuous shrinkage.

(*b*) *Land Tenure*[1] *and Methods of Cultivation*

As regards tenure, land in the Ukraine falls into three main classes: (1) land owned privately, mainly in large estates, but a small proportion in farm-holdings by successful peasants; (2) land termed *nadyel*, owned almost entirely by peasant communes; and (3) land owned by the Orthodox Church or the Crown, or granted as appanages to members of the Imperial family. The following table shows the total acreage, and the proportion belonging to each of these classes:

		Percentage of		
Government.	*Total area in millions of acres.*	*Private property.*	*Nadyel.*	*Church and Crown land, &c.*
Volhynia	15,484	48·9	39·8	11·3
Podolia	9,873	44·4	48·0	7·6
Chernigov	11,836	41·7	53·1	5·2
Kiev	12,484	45·2	45·6	9·2
Kherson	16,591	51·5	37·3	11·2
Poltava	11,331	45·1	52·3	2·6
Kharkov	12,141	35·8	59·2	5·0
Yekaterinoslav	15,041	50·4	45·4	4·2
Taurida	7,099	52·6	37·2	10·2
Total	111,880	Average 46·2	46·4	7·4

[1] See also p. 50.